

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL**

Re: *Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz Bands*, WT Docket No. 12-70; *Fixed and Mobile Services in the Mobile Satellite Service Bands at 1525-1559 MHz and 1626.5-1660.5 MHz, 1610-1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz, and 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz*, ET Docket No. 10-142; *Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 1915-1920 MHz, 1995-2000 MHz, 2020-2025 MHz and 2175-2180 MHz Bands*, WT Docket No. 04-356.

As we all know, Americans are consuming more of the airwaves than ever before through powerful new mobile broadband devices. Our appetite for spectrum seems insatiable. Today, the FCC takes a small but important step toward satisfying that hunger.

With mobile broadband in mind, since my arrival at the Commission I have advocated for more flexible use standards when adopting spectrum policy. The Commission has a checkered past of micromanaging spectrum use only to find years later that technical innovation and market demands have evolved past the government's myopic view. Exploring ways to allow for dynamic uses of valuable frequencies while preventing harmful interference to other licensees and users is a laudable goal. Our notice of proposed rulemaking liberating the 2 GHz Band, rebranded today as "AWS-4," for possible terrestrial broadband use is a step in the right direction. I commend Chairman Genachowski for bringing forward this comprehensive, deregulatory and broadly-applicable proposal.

But he didn't stop there. He has also put forth today's notice of inquiry on a proposed "2 GHz Extension Band Concept," which incorporates an idea from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to reallocate 1695-1710 MHz from federal to commercial use. I look forward to learning from all interested parties on these timely proposals. And, I thank the folks in the Wireless Telecommunications and International bureaus, as well as our friends at NTIA, for your thoughtful and creative work.